

HOUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Tuesday 3rd September 2019
at Houghton Village Hall, 7.30pm

Present: Parish Councillors: A Young (Chairman), Mrs L Adams (Vice Chairman), P Chant, A Dougall, J Coombes.
County Cllr A Gibson, Borough Cllr A Johnson.

Members of the Public: 18

Minutes: Mrs Clare Cotterell - Parish Clerk

The meeting started at 7.30pm

1	Apologies None.	Noted
2	Declarations of Interest Cllrs to declare any interest relating to items on this agenda – None.	Noted
3	Cllrs to confirm the accuracy of the minutes of the meetings held on: a) 2nd July 2019 - Proposed Cllr Adams, seconded Cllr Dougall, all agreed. b) 16th July 2019 – Extraordinary Meeting - Proposed Cllr Adams, seconded Cllr Dougall, all agreed.	
4	Actions and Updates to be reported Clerk reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All responses to planning applications from meetings held on 2nd and 16th July were submitted to TVBC and acknowledged. • A grant of £8,981.00 for the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) has been received from Groundwork UK. • A letter has been received from Test Valley School (TVS) requesting a donation for their presentation evening. Clerk has responded and requested that a grant funding application form is submitted and advised the school of the internal auditor advice that the request should come from the PTA and should clearly state that the requested donation is not for educational purposes. No reply received to date. 	
5	Public Participation - <i>This item will be limited to 15 minutes, unless directed otherwise by the Chairman.</i> A resident requested to speak on Item 8c, Chairman agreed the resident could speak during the agenda item.	
6	Houghton beach/wild swimming Cllrs to discuss the issues around the beach/wild swimming at Houghton - Cllr Young gave an overview of the issues, including parking on the pavement and bend, littering, dog waste and trespass. Over the last 3 years the problems have increased with up to 30 cars parked at one time. Cllr Young has contacted the Police, HCC Highways and TVBC regarding the parking blocking the pavement causing pedestrians to use the road on a bend. Police have suggested contacting Highways although one PCSO has visited when not busy. Highways have said there is no money to add parking restrictions and suggest contacting the Police to enforce when parking problems. Cllr Young has also contacted Natural England regarding the swimming, littering and trespass. Natural England responded it is very difficult in this situation to prove damage to wildlife. Members of the public were invited to speak and expressed their concerns. A number of options were discussed including adding designated parking spaces, parking restrictions, further anti-littering signs, additional litter bins and noted that when Houghton Farmhouse is developed the road may be widened on the bend. There were concerns noted around how parking or parking restrictions could be enforced. The beach is advertised on several wild swimming websites and it was suggested that comments could be added to request the public do not access the Test at that point. The fishing club would like to restrict the parking and have cordoned off an area of the river and put signs up. The fishing club may reduce the size of river area further. It was confirmed that the fishing club are the landowners of the area by the river. Cllr Gibson commented that Chilbolton have similar problems and suggested that more parking availability encourages more visitors. TVBC have added a litter bin away from the road and the Parish Council pay for it to be emptied. Cllr Johnson offered help to investigate moving or installing litter bins.	

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	<p>Cllrs agreed the following actions: To investigate more litter signage To investigate additional litter bin and its location To contact wild swimming sites and add comments.</p>	<p>Clerk Cllr Dougall</p>																
7	<p>Borough and County Councillor Reports. Cllr Johnson reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid Test Matters newsletter has been circulated. • Draft Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document is on TVBC website. • TVAPTC conference on 21st September at Kings Somborne. • TVBC Councillors Community Grant scheme – this may be available for signage. • TVBC have climate change as an agenda item. <p>Cllr Gibson reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grass verges/wildflowers – HCC are only cutting verges where there are safety issues. • Potholes are taking a long time before being filled in. • Harold Hillier Arboretum are looking for volunteers. • Climate change – HCC have declared a climate change emergency • HCC will have an extraordinary meeting on 23rd September to discuss the 2050 strategy and investment in electric car charging points. • Cllr Gibson is cycling to Barcelona fundraising for Cancer Research and Countess Mountbatten Hospice. 																	
8	<p>Planning Cllrs to propose a response to be submitted to TVBC in relation to the following planning or tree applications:</p> <p>a) 19/01797/FULLS & 19/01798/LBWS – replace the existing garage with a garage/garden room, replace the single storey extension for a single storey extension & and the addition of a staircase & windows to provide additional living space in the loft (amended scheme) – Church Lane Cottage, Church Lane, Houghton – Support – Proposed Cllr Dougall, seconded Cllr Chant, all agreed.</p> <p>b) 19/01925/TPOS - T1+T2- Purple sycamore and snakebark maple - Fell both trees as part of garden makeover, removing ornamental trees and replacing with native species. Trees have been reduced previously resulting in unnatural regrowth and poor form. Questionable amenity value and of little ecological value. Applicant suggesting Amelanchier or betula as replacements. G3- Limes- Remove epicormic and basal growth from main stems up to a height of around 3m. Crown raise lower branches on road side of trees lifting to around 2.5m to allow maintenance and planting of bank underneath. Rolling consent requested to repeat epicormic removal and crown raise every 2 years or as required to maintain desired result – The Limes, Church Lane, Houghton – No Objection – Proposed Cllr Adams, seconded Cllr Dougall, all agreed.</p> <p>c) 19/02043/TREES – Tree works as per schedule received – Broad Oak, The Orchards, Houghton – The applicant explained the tree works schedule – No Objection – Proposed Cllr Chant, seconded Cllr Coombes, all agreed.</p>																	
9	<p>Finance</p> <p>a) Cllrs to propose acceptance of the financial statement for the period of 1st July to 31st August 2019 – Proposed Cllr Adams, seconded Cllr Chant, all agreed.</p> <p>b) Cllrs to approve the following payments to be made - Proposed Cllr Adams, seconded Cllr Dougall, all agreed.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>Payee</u></th> <th style="text-align: right;"><u>Amount</u></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>Payee</u></th> <th style="text-align: right;"><u>Amount</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Clerk Salary (July)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£403.80</td> <td>Clerk Salary (Aug)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£403.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk/office expenses</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£73.02</td> <td>HMRC PAYE (Month 5&6)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£102.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reimbursement of purchase of Laptop</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£549.94</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Closing bank balance as at 31st August 2019 - £26,562.66</u></p>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>	Clerk Salary (July)	£403.80	Clerk Salary (Aug)	£403.80	Clerk/office expenses	£73.02	HMRC PAYE (Month 5&6)	£102.40	Reimbursement of purchase of Laptop	£549.94			
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10	<p>Noticeboard Cllrs to review and approve sizes and quotations for a new Parish Council noticeboard. Cllrs reviewed the sizes and quotations and agreed to accept the quotation from The Acorn Workshop for the oak noticeboard - size 1650mm x 1060mm, including header board with blacked in lettering and oak posts for mounting. Cost including delivery is £1,600.00. Proposed Cllr Adams, seconded Cllr Dougall, all agreed. Installation of the board to be arranged.</p>																	

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11	<p>Draft Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document Cllrs to consider submitting a comment for the consultation.</p> <p>Cllrs agreed not to submit a comment for the consultation.</p>	
12	<p>Cllrs to receive updates on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Neighbourhood Development Plan – Have been awarded a £9891.00 Locality grant – Planning consultant David Nicholson is to write up the plan and has visited. There will be an open meeting and the steering group will be looking for volunteers to join the group. It is hoped to be at submission stage by the end of the year. b) Playground and Trees – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Cllr Young to update on play inspection report and remedial works – Cllr Young confirmed the rope hanging from tree has been removed, the bird fouling is cleaned off regularly and the bolt cap will be replaced. ii) Cllrs to review the tree report and agree any action required – The horse chestnut and lime trees have been inspected – the recommended action from the report is to remove major deadwood from both trees and lightly prune the horse chestnut – Cllrs agreed an amount of up to £500.00 for the works using the same contractor, Cllr Young to request a quotation from the contractor – Proposed Cllr Dougall, seconded Cllr Adams, all agreed. c) Lengthsman Scheme – There is a new Lengthsman. Good reviews have been received from parishioners. 	
12	<p>Next Meeting Tuesday 12th November 2019 – 7.30pm – Houghton Village Hall</p>	

Meeting closed at 9.03pm

These minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman at the meeting held on 12th November 2019